

**IN THE STATE COURT OF DEKALB COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

In re:	}	
	}	Division 5
ALL CIVIL CASES ON PRE-TRIAL	}	Judge Mike Jacobs
CONFERENCE CALENDARS	}	
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**STANDING ORDER REGARDING
CIVIL PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE CALENDARS**

This Order shall apply in all civil cases scheduled on the Court's pre-trial conference calendars. The Clerk is directed to file and serve a copy of this Order in each scheduled case. This Order will be filed one time in each case and will apply to all future pre-trial conference calendars. All parties should read this Order carefully and comply with its provisions.

Not less than seven (7) days prior to the date of the pre-trial conference, the parties shall file with the State Court Clerk a proposed consolidated pre-trial order in substantially the format prescribed in Uniform Superior Court Rule 7.2. This includes the proposed order for adopting the consolidated pre-trial order that is found at the end of Rule 7.2. All parties shall participate in preparing the consolidated pre-trial order, which must be signed on behalf of each party appearing in the case. If any party fails to participate in the preparation of a consolidated pre-trial order, the remaining parties may prepare and file their own pre-trial order(s). However, this is not preferred and could subject a party to sanctions for failure to participate as directed.

Unless the Court has separately ordered a different deadline, **all dispositive motions, including, but not limited to, motions for summary judgment, and all motions pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 24-7-702, including, but not limited to, Daubert motions, must be filed no later than seven (7) days preceding the first date set for a pre-trial conference, regardless of whether the pre-trial conference actually occurs on the originally scheduled date. Any**

issue which may be raised in a dispositive motion or in a motion pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 24-7-702 will not be permitted to be raised through a motion filed after such deadline. The filing of a timely dispositive motion or motion pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 24-7-702 will automatically remove the case from the pre-trial conference calendar, pending the outcome of the motion, and will excuse all parties from appearing.

If the parties wish to extend the discovery period and/or continue the pre-trial conference, a consent motion and proposed consent order must be filed with the State Court Clerk and transmitted via electronic mail to Tamika Thompson, Civil Calendar Clerk for Division 5, at the below e-mail address. The consent motion and consent order also may propose extended deadlines for filing dispositive motions and motions pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 24-7-702. The consent motion and consent order must bear a signature on behalf of each party appearing in the case. Submission of a consent motion and consent order does not excuse the parties from appearing at the pre-trial conference, unless the consent order is signed by the Court.

All parties must appear or be represented at the pre-trial conference. Filing a pre-trial order does not preclude attendance. Failure to attend could result in the imposition of sanctions. All attorney conflicts will be resolved as provided in Uniform Superior Court Rule 17.1. All attorney leaves of absence affecting the calendar and filed after the calendar is published will require an application and Court approval pursuant to Uniform Superior Court Rule 16.2.

During the pre-trial conference, the Court will inquire into whether any discovery remains to be completed, whether the filing of any further motions is anticipated, and whether court-ordered mediation could be helpful in resolving the matter. The Court strongly prefers to require the parties to participate in mediation. The Court's standard mediation order provides for two free hours of mediation through the DeKalb County Courts Dispute Resolution Center, or

alternatively the parties may elect to mediate through a private mediator. When mediation is ordered, it is mandatory that all parties participate such that an individual with full authority to settle the case on behalf of each party is present and participating.


Failure of a plaintiff to participate as directed in this Order may result in their complaint being dismissed without prejudice. This includes counterclaim, cross-claim, and third-party plaintiffs. Failure of a defendant to participate as directed in this Order may result in their answer being stricken and entry of default.

Any questions regarding the Court's pre-trial calendar should be directed to Tamika Thompson, Civil Calendar Clerk, at (404) 371-4974 or tnthompson@dekalbcountyga.gov.

SO ORDERED, this 26th day of August, 2016.



MIKE JACOBS, Judge
State Court of DeKalb County

FILED IN THIS OFFICE
THIS 26 DAY OF Aug 2016

Clerk, State Court, DeKalb County